
**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
HIV PREVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE (PPC)
A Select Committee of the Commission on HIV Health Services
600 South Commonwealth Avenue, 6th Floor•Los Angeles CA 90005-4001**

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, September 2, 2004

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

St. Anne's Maternity Home - Foundation Conference Room
155 N. Occidental Blvd.-Los Angeles, CA 90026

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mario Perez*	Jeff Bailey*
Vanessa Talamantes*	Chi-Wai Au*
Sergio Avina*	Diane Brown
Richard Browne*	Gordon Bunch
Manuel Cortez	David Giugni*
Jeffrey King*	Elizabeth Mendia*
Veronica Morales	Vicky Ortega
Ricki Rosales	Royce Sciortino*
Rose Veniegas*	Kathy Watt*
Freddie Williams*	Richard Zaldivar*

ABSENT

Cesar Cadabes
Edward Clarke

* Denotes present at one (1) of the roll calls

STAFF PRESENT

Juli-Ann Carlos	Arthur Durazo	Elizabeth Escobedo	Charlavonna James
Mike Kerr	Ronald Merrick	John Mesta	Ijeoma Nwachuku
Jane Rohde	Juhua Wu	Paulina Zamudio	

I. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken.

II. COLLOQUIA PRESENTATION

Dr. Rose Veniegas introduced Dr. Rosa Solorio who provided a Power Point presentation titled, *HIV Health Care Services for Mexican Migrants*. (A copy of the presentation is on file.) This presentation focused on the following: California-Mexico Relations AIDS Initiative, AIDS statistics in California, migration related risk factors for HIV, ethnic health care disparities, and HIV health care services for migrants. The presentation concluded with recommendations on research, health policy, and bi-national collaborations.

III. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

The draft meeting agenda for September 2, 2004 was approved without corrections by consensus.

IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AUGUST 5, 2004 MEETING SUMMARY

The draft-meeting summary for August 5, 2004 was approved without corrections by consensus.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

VI. UPDATE ON PPC NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT/TRAINING

Dr. Ijeoma Nwachuku provided a project overview on the Community Needs Assessment Project. Data collection is taking place in all eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs) and is targeting high-risk populations (MSM, MSM/W, WSR, Transgenders, IDUs). It is estimated that by the end of October

2004, there will be information gathered on approximately 200 participants. As incentives participants receive AMC movie packets.

Volunteers are needed to collect data. The only requirement for volunteers is that they be HIPAA (Health Information Portability Accountability Act) certified. HIPAA certification is available on line through the UCLA web site. The project team always works in pairs and consists of approximately seven people (a coordinator, 2 facilitators, 2 interviewers, and 2 other staff if needed).

PPC and audience members were asked to volunteer to collect data. Everyone was asked to sign-up for at least two different time slots (each time slot is four hours). The sign-up sheet included the names of PPC members who had already signed up to participate and a schedule of the data collection dates, times, and locations.

VII. BREAK

Immediately following the break, PPC and audience members were given the opportunity to ask questions to the CDC Project Officers.

COMMENT: (Victoria Rayle) Acknowledged and thanked the PPC for their response to the CDC's proposed content review guidance and indicated that an official response should be published within 120 days after the public comment period.

QUESTION: At the prevention planning summit there was discussion on the question of fidelity of interventions. I wanted to see if you had an opinion or to see in light of the CDC directly funding some CBO's, what you feel Los Angeles' interpretation will be around fidelity to some of these interventions that are being carried out?

ANSWER: PA 04064 is the consolidation of several initiatives that ended in May 2004. Obviously there is a lot of indirect funding going on with CDC dollars through our health departments. Now we have two major funding initiatives in place for CBOs. The Young MSM of Color (PA 1163), which has another year and half to go and the newly funded 04064. For PA 04064 there were 143 CBO's awarded funds from the CDC to support evidence-based interventions. This PA funded evidence based interventions or the DEBI's. There have been about 13 interventions identified as scientifically affective but these are not the end all list. There will be opportunities for the "home grown" interventions to have resources to get the science and documentation to make them recognized as evidence based interventions. This is a focus of CDC. It is important to really concentrate on the core elements of interventions. It does not mean we want everyone to do the same things. We need you to adapt the interventions but we need to see the core elements to be represented in the implementation across the board. There is heavy emphasizes on us as project officers to work with those directly funded agencies to ensure they have the support and training that they need to get the right staff with skills and training to implement these interventions in a way they were designed and the way they were proven to be effective.

QUESTION: The PPC has thought about requesting the scoring guidelines and scores for applicants under PA 04064. What is the appropriate process for requesting this type of information?

ANSWER: Scores will not be available.

QUESTION: In reality geography could have played into funding before your score was too low?

ANSWER: No.

VIII. UPDATE ON STATEWIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF RAPID HIV TESTING

Mario Perez introduced and welcomed Kevin Farrell and Deanna Sykes from the State of California Office of AIDS.

Kevin Farrell reported the implementation of statewide rapid HIV testing in 30 local health jurisdictions (including Los Angeles). There have been 450 counselors trained statewide. Rapid HIV testing started in July 2003 with five pilot test sites. The "oral" test has been indefinitely delayed and the State is not sure when the oral rapid test will be available. The State of California has provided Rapid Test kits to local health jurisdictions based on partial funding from the CDC; however, beginning January 1, 2005, the State of California will have to remove the monies for Rapid testing from the cooperative agreement with CDC. The Alcohol and Drug Programs at the State of California level have been awarded a grant

through SAMSA (mental health) to begin rapid testing through drug and alcohol programs. It appears that rapid testing is providing a way to link testing to care.

QUESTION: Over the last four to five months, OAPP has had more than 5,000 Ora-Sure kits either expire or set to expire. The reason that has been shared with OAPP by Ora-Sure Technologies is that there aren't enough raw materials available to create reagents. OAPP is attempting to regain the cost of the expired OraSure. The net cost of the expired tests is about \$18,000. Is there any sense from CDC or State Office of AIDS what that dynamic is or can we expect this to be resolved in any meaningful way? There is also a financial drawback because the public health lab is not being used.

ANSWER: The availability of the materials is a function of OraSure having moved their company but this is resolved or will be resolved.

This is an issue that should be explored further. CDC has not heard about any reagent issues.

QUESTION: In light of the increasing numbers of individual's who are testing positive, does the State have a plan to support local jurisdictions in efforts to try to provide mental health support for counselors?

ANSWER: There is a lot of anxiety about delivering a preliminary positive result and the State wants to speak to counselors about the type of support they need.

QUESTION: Has the California AIDS Clearinghouse been looked as a mechanism for forwarding and distributing OraQuick?

ANSWER: For the final quarter of 2004, the California AIDS Clearinghouse will be involved; however, beginning January 1, 2005, the OraQuick test kits will be purchased through bulk order from the manufacturer by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

QUESTION: Can you give us an idea of how widely available rapid testing is in Los Angeles County?

ANSWER: There are currently 15 programs implementing rapid testing through one or a couple of funding streams. There are 11 sites that are staffed by OAPP Community Service counselors that also offer rapid testing.

IX. COMMUNITY CO-CHAIRS REPORT

Richard Zaldivar introduced a motion to dissolve the Joint Public Policy subcommittee.

MOTION: To dissolve the Joint Public Policy subcommittee and transfer the responsibilities and activities of the former Joint Public Policy subcommittee to the PPC Executive subcommittee.

A hand vote was conducted. 15 Yes, 1 No, 1 Abstention. **Motion Passed.**

Vanessa Talamantes reminded the PPC members that the Operations and Executive subcommittees are reviewing attendance and participation at the PPC and subcommittee level.

X. GOVERNMENTAL CO-CHAIR REPORT

Mario Perez reported OAPP has begun to prepare the Interim Progress Report (IPR) for the first six months of year 2004 to CDC. A draft of the IPR will be available for PPC members to review at the end of September. The meeting scheduled to review the IPR will be on September 30th.

Mario Perez reported that a draft of the Los Angeles County HIV Prevention Plan 2004-2008 has been submitted to OAPP for review. The revised draft will be made available to the PPC.

Mario Perez reported the *Ryan White Care Act Grantees Conference* was held in Washington, D.C. At the national level, there appears to be clear direction toward more effectively integrating prevention services in the delivery of care services.

Mario Perez reported the recommendations for the Prevention RFP are in final form but there still needs to be a couple more levels of review.

XI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ♦ **Operations – Diane Brown** reminded the group about the Annual PPC Planning Meeting scheduled for October 4th and October 5th at Luminarias. Invitation letters will be going out soon. It is expected that there will 75 participants on day 1 and approximately 50 participants on day 2.

Diane Burbie will be facilitating the meeting. Applications for Commission membership are available. The PPC has one voting seat and one non-voting seat on the Commission. The PPC should select representatives to the Commission.

- ♦ **Evaluation – Gordon Bunch** reported the problems and issues of the Needs Assessment were discussed at the last Evaluation subcommittee. The Performance Indicators have been reviewed.
- ♦ **Youth Leadership – Chi-Wai Au** reported the last Youth Leadership Subcommittee was held jointly with the Adolescent HIV Consortium at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. There was a presentation on Abstentions Based HIV Prevention and there was a discussion on the revised CDC Content Guidelines.
- ♦ **Standards & Best Practices – Dr. Rose Veniegas** reported that the response to revised CDC Content Guidelines was distributed. The prevention planning questions related to the CSV were discussed and a draft response was submitted to the Director of OAPP. The Standards & Best Practices subcommittee has begun to compile job descriptions related to prevention programming.
- ♦ **CHHS Update – Vicky Ortega and Elizabeth Mendia** reported the Commission passed the motion to change county ordinance regarding the Commercial Sex Venue.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mario Perez introduced outgoing CDC Project Officer for Los Angeles, Victoria Rayle, and introduced incoming CDC Project Officer for Los Angeles Angel Ortiz-Ricard.

Mario Perez also announced that staff from the State Office of AIDS is in Los Angeles conducting site visits.

Mario Perez introduced and welcomed Jane Rohde.

Chi-Wai Au reported that the most recent Syphilis Report is available on the back table.

Royce Sciortino reported that the California AIDS Clearinghouse has released an RFP for a Materials Development Grant.

Manuel Cortez announced AltaMed's Annual Fundraiser is September 25, 2004 at Paramount Studios and Richard Zaldivar will be honored.

Richard Zaldivar announced the "Strike Out AIDS" fundraiser will be held at Dodgers Stadium on October 2nd. The Wall-Las Memorias will be holding a Faith Based Event on Sunday, October 10th.

Vanessa Talamantes reminded PPC members and PPC Audience to sign up for the Community Needs Assessment Project.

Mario Perez reported the last HIV/AIDS Surveillance Summary Report indicates that Latinos make up the highest number of AIDS cases countywide.

Kathy Watt requested the meeting to be adjourned in memory of "Bella".

XIII. CLOSING ROLL CALL

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 4:45PM.

Note: All agenda items are subject to action.

NOTE: All HIV Prevention Planning Committee (PPC) meeting summaries, tapes and documents are available for review and inspection at Office of AIDS Programs and Policy (OAPP) located at 600 South Commonwealth Avenue, 6th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90005. To make an appointment to review these documents, please call Cheryl Williams at (213) 351-8126.